507 South Main Dickinson, ND 58601 701-483-4000 Fax 701-483-0001 1-888-225-5282 www.ctctel.com

> Consolidated Telephone Cooperative

> Consolidated Enterprises Incorporated

Consolidated Telcom Incorporated

Consolidated Communications Corporation

Consolidated
Cable Vision

Consolidated Communications Networks Incorporated

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November 1, 1999

Office of the Secretary CC Docket No. 96-45 Federal Communications Commission Room 222 1919 M Street NW Washington, DC 20554

Consolidated Telcom, Inc. files this certification statement pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)Report and Order, CC Docket 96-45, released May 8, 1997. In Section VII, Paragraph 310 of the Order, the FCC stated that a carrier "must notify the Commission and its state commission that, for purposes of universal service support mechanisms, it meets the Section 3(37) definition of a rural carrier." Section 3(37) of the 1996 Telecommunications Act (the "Act") defines a "rural telephone company."

Consolidated Telcom, Inc. hereby certifies that:

- 1. **Consolidated Telcom Inc.** is a "rural telephone company" as defined in the Act, 47 U.S.C. § 153 (37). **Consolidated Telcom, Inc.** satisfies alternative definition (37)(B), fewer than 50,000 access lines.
- 2. **Consolidated Telcom, Inc.** provides telephone exchange service including exchange access in the following exchange areas in North Dakota:

Exchange Prefix/Name

523 - Bowman

564 - S. Hettinger

567 - Hettinger

579 - New England

764 - Killdeer

824 - Mott

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- 3. The "service area" or "study area" of **Consolidated Telcom**, **Inc.** is comprised of all of its exchange areas identified in paragraph 2 for purposes of Section 214 of the Act and **Consolidated Telcom**, **Inc.'s** designation as eligible telecommunications carrier for the service area. The total number of access lines is 4706, as published in the most reliable and recent compilation, the North Dakota Telephone Association 1999-2000 Directory of North Dakota Telephone Companies.
- 4. **Consolidated Telcom, Inc.** has been designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier under the Act 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) by the North Dakota Public Service Commission.

Dated the 1st day of November, 1999.

Consolidated Telcom, Inc.

L. Dan Wilhelmson General Manager/CEO